

GLOSSARY

A

Acquired land. Lands in Federal ownership, which were obtained by the Government through purchase, condemnation, gift, or by exchange.

Administrative facilities. Cabins, campgrounds, and shelters for recreation.

Administrative site. Lands used as headquarters or administrative facility by a Federal agency.

Ambient air quality standard. The prescribed level of air pollutants that cannot be exceeded legally during a specified time within a specified geographical area.

B

BLM. Bureau of Land Management, US Department of the Interior.

C

CFR. Code of Federal Regulations.

Clearance. Cultural resources documenting that the requirements of 36 CFR 800 have been fully met for each undertaking.

Critical habitat. Specific areas designated as critical by the Secretary of Interior or Commerce for the survival and recovery of species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Cultural resources. The physical remains of districts, sites, structures, buildings, networks, events, or objects used by humans in the past. They may be historic, prehistoric, architectural, or archival in nature. Heritage resources are non-renewable aspects of our national heritage.

Cumulative effects. See Effects.

D

Day-use facilities. Recreation facilities with no overnight camping available.

Demographic. Pertaining to the study of the characteristics of populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics.

Developed recreation site. Relatively small, distinctly defined area where facilities are provided for concentrated public use, e.g., campgrounds, picnic areas, visitor center.

E

Easement. An interest or right in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

Ecosystem. A complete, interacting system of organisms considered together with their environment.

Edge effect. The effect of adjoining vegetative communities on the population structure along the margin, which provides for greater numbers of species and higher population densities than either adjoining community. Edge may also result in negative effects, since habitat along the edge is different than within the patch, reducing the effective area of the habitat patch.

Effects. Includes the following: Direct: Results of an action occurring when and where that action takes place. Indirect: Results of an action occurring at a location other than where the action takes place and/or later in time, but in the reasonably foreseeable future. Cumulative: Results of collective past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

Endangered species. Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified and defined in accordance with the Endangered Species Act and published in the Federal Register.

Environmental analysis. An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short- and long-term environmental effects, incorporating the physical, biological, economic, social and environmental design arts and their interactions.

Estuary. An ecological system at the mouth of a stream where fresh water and salt water mix, and where salt marshes and intertidal mudflats are present. The landward extent of an estuary is the limit of salt-intolerant vegetation, and the seaward extent is a stream's delta at mean low water.

F

FLPMA. Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Fragmentation. An element of biological diversity that describes the natural condition of habitats in terms of the size of discrete habitat blocks or patches, their distribution, the extent to which they are interconnected, and the effects of management on these natural conditions.

G

Goal. A concise statement that describes a desired future condition normally expressed in broad, general terms that are timeless, in that there is no specific date by which the goal is to be achieved.

Groundwater. Water within the earth that supplies wells and springs. Specifically, water in the zone of saturation where all openings in soils and rocks are filled; the upper surface level forms the water table

H

Habitat. The sum total of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a wildlife or plant species or a population of each species.

Historic property. Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places. The term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties.

I

Implementation plans. Interdisciplinary plans and environmental assessments that analyze specific on the ground projects authorized by higher level land use plans such as the Coordinated Management Plan.

Implementation projects. On-the-ground projects to meet land management objectives (i.e., soil improvement projects, timber harvest, prescribed fire etc.).

Irretrievable commitments. Applies to losses of production or use of renewable natural resources for a period of time.

Issue. A point, matter, or section of public discussion or interest to be addressed or decided.

L

Land use prescriptions. Specific management direction applied to a defined area of land to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives.

Lease. An authorization (usually long-term) to possess and use public lands or minerals for a fixed period of time.

M

Management concern. An issue, problem or a condition which constrains the range of management practices identified by the Forest Service in the planning process.

Management direction. A statement of multiple-use and other goals and objectives, the associated land use prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them.

Management practices. The activities applied to a defined area of land to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.

Management prescription. Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for application on a specific area (e.g., a land use designation) to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). An agreement between agencies resulting from consultation between agencies that states specific measures the agencies will follow to accomplish a large or complex project. A memorandum of understanding is not a fund obligating document.

Mitigation. Actions that serve to avoid or minimize impacts from Federal actions.

Monitoring. Gathering information and observing results of management activities to provide a basis for the periodic evaluation of the plan.

Motorized recreation. Recreation activities involving motorized methods for access and transport or in support of an activity. Examples are ATV/OHV use, etc.

MOU. Memorandum of Understanding.

Multiple-aged stands. An intermediate form of stand structure between even- and uneven-aged stands. These stands generally have two or three distinct tree canopy levels occurring within a single stand.

N

National Register of Historic Places. A listing of cultural resources of national, state, or local significance, maintained by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

No Action Alternative. The most likely condition expected to exist in the future if current management direction were to continue unchanged.

O

Objectives. The precise steps to be taken and the resources to be used in achieving goals.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV). Any vehicle which is restricted by law from operating on public roads for general motor vehicle traffic. Includes motorbikes, minibikes, trailbikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles. Sometimes referred to as Off-Road Vehicle or "ORV"; or All Terrain Vehicle (ATV).

ORV. See Off-Highway Vehicle.

P

Palustrine wetland. Includes all nontidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, emergent mosses or lichens and all such wetlands that occur in tidal areas where salinity due to ocean derived salts is below 0.5 percent.

Parts per million (PPM). A measurement of concentration indicating the quantity of a substance per unit volume of a solution.

Plant association. Climax forest plant community type representing the endpoint of succession.

Plant communities. An collection of plants that, in general, occur together on similar site conditions.

Prescribed fire. A fire burning under planned conditions to accomplish specific land and resource objectives.

Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD). The process incorporated in the Clean Air Act which requires emission limitations for certain new or modified source.

R

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). A system for planning and managing recreation resources that categorizes recreation opportunities into eight classes. Each class is defined in terms of the degree to which it satisfies certain recreation experience needs based on the extent to

which the natural environment has been modified, the type of facilities provided, the degree of outdoor skills needed to enjoy the area and the relative density of recreation use.

Responsible official. The BLM employee who has the legal authority to make a specific decision.

Riparian area. The area including a stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the plants that grow in the water and on the land next to the water.

Riparian corridor. The floodplain and associated riparian soils, vegetation, and wetlands.

Rural development. The management of human, natural, technical, and financial resources needed to improve living conditions, provide employment opportunities, enrich the cultural life, and enhance the environment of rural America.

S

Scoping. Determination of the significant issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement.

Sensitive species. Plant or animal species, which are susceptible or vulnerable to habitat alterations or management activities resulting in a viability concern for the species long-term persistence. Sensitive species may be those species under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, that are on an official state list, or that are recognized by the Regional Forester as needing special consideration to assure viable populations and to prevent their being placed on Federal or state lists.

SHPO. See State Historic Preservation Officer.

Special use permit. Permits and granting of easements (excluding road permits and highway easements) authorizing the occupancy and use of land.

Stand. A group of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age arrangement, and condition as to be distinguishable from the trees in adjoining areas.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The official appointed or designated pursuant to Section 101(b)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, to administer the State Historic Preservation Program.

Suppression. The act of extinguishing or confining a fire.

T

Thinning. The practice of removing some of the trees in a stand so that the remaining trees will grow faster due to reduced competition for nutrients, water, and sunlight. Thinning may also be done to change the characteristics of a stand for wildlife or other purposes.

Threatened species. A plant or animal species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Threatened species are identified and defined in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Threshold. The point or level of activity beyond which an undesirable set of responses begins to take place within a given resource system.

Tiering. Elimination of repetitive discussions of the same issue by incorporating by reference the general discussion in an environmental document of broader scope.

U

Upland. Not immediately adjacent to a stream.

Utility corridor. Corridors for transmission lines, cables, pipelines, and major highways.

V

Visual Resource Management (VRM). Visual resource management and VRM classes which describe the level of change from natural scenery from human caused effects.

W

Water table. The upper surface of the ground water or that level below which the soil is saturated with water.

Well-drained soils. Water is removed from the soil readily, but not rapidly.

Wetlands. Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient, under normal circumstances, to support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include peatlands, muskegs, marshes, bogs, sloughs, potholes, river overflows, mud flats, wet meadows, seeps, and springs.

